

# Parent Involvement Equals Student Success

► THE PARENT SERIES



## Here's What You Can Do At Home To Help Your Child Succeed.

*Parent support is more important than a student's IQ, economic status, or school setting. Parent involvement begins at home. Your child will benefit from a positive home environment that encourages learning.*

There are many ways to encourage your child's school success at home:

- Make sure your child arrives at school well rested and with a good breakfast. This helps your child stay alert and engaged.
- Set a regular time and a quiet place for your child to complete assignments.
- Ask your child what he or she learns in school each day.
- Limit the amount of time your child watches television or plays computer games.
- Praise and encourage your child.
- Celebrate your child's successes.
- Focus on your child's strengths.

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# Why Should I be Involved with My Child's Education?

## HOW CAN I BE INVOLVED IN MY CHILD'S EDUCATION?

Parent involvement begins at home. Your child will benefit from a positive home environment that encourages learning.

### Make School Important

**Research shows that parent support is more important to school success than a student's IQ, economic status, or school setting.** As a parent, you influence everything from your child's reading level to his or her test scores. There are many ways for you to be involved, both at home and with the school.

### How does my involvement benefit my child?

Many studies have shown that your child can benefit if you are involved with his or her education.

- Higher grades and test scores
- Better attitudes and behavior
- Improved high school graduation rates
- Better school attendance
- More homework completed

### You are your child's most important teacher.

When you show an interest in your child's education, you teach him or her that learning can be enjoyable and rewarding.

When you set high expectations for your child's school performance, your child will strive to meet those expectations.

When you tell your child that you believe in his or her abilities, your child is encouraged to perform well in school and develop through learning.

## HOW CAN I BE INVOLVED WITH MY CHILD'S SCHOOL?

To help your child be successful, it is important to be involved not only at home but also with school. Here are ways to support your child through his or her school:

- Attend open houses and back-to-school nights
- Attend school programs
- Read the school newsletter
- Join the parent-teacher association
- Take part in after-school events
  - Get to know your child's teachers
  - Support your child in school activities
  - Spend time at your child's school as a volunteer or visitor

**What you can do at home to help your child's school:**

If work or other commitments make it impossible for you to spend time at your child's school, look for ways you can help the school while at home. For example, you could call other parents to notify them of school events.

## WHAT IF MY TEEN DOESN'T WANT ME INVOLVED AT SCHOOL?

Parent involvement at school sometimes decreases in the middle and high school years. Maturing teens have a need to develop a sense of self and independence; however, it is important to remember that you still have a strong influence on your teenager's life.

- Keep the lines of communication open
  - Set fair and consistent rules
  - Support your child's future
  - Set a good example
- Continue to create time for your family to do activities together